

Application No.: 10/044367

Case No.: 57384US002

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (previously presented): An article comprising an adhesive layer, a backing layer associated with said adhesive layer, and a release liner layer wherein said release liner layer comprises a first surface associated with said adhesive layer and a second surface, wherein said first surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions that penetrate said adhesive layer to make substantial contact with said backing layer, and wherein said adhesive layer does not contact the land of said release liner layer.

2 – 3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented): An article of claim 1, wherein said backing layer is a release liner layer of claim 1 wherein said second surface is associated with said adhesive layer.

5. (previously presented): An article of claim 1, wherein said backing layer is a polymeric film, paper, metal foil, or fabric.

6. (original): An article of claim 5, wherein said polymeric film is a polyolefin, polyester, polystyrene, plasticized polyvinyl chloride, polycarbonate or polymethacrylate film.

7. (original): An article of claim 5, wherein said polymeric film is a polyethylene or polypropylene film.

8. (canceled)

9. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said second surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions.

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10. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

11. (original): An article of claim 10, wherein said pressure sensitive adhesive is selected from natural rubber, synthetic rubber, block copolymers, (meth)acrylates, silicones, and olefins.

12. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said release liner layer is a polymeric film.

13. (original): An article of claim 12, wherein said polymeric film is a polyolefin, polyester, polycarbonate or polymethacrylate film.

14. (original): An article of claim 12, wherein said polymeric film is a polyethylene or polypropylene film.

15. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions are posts with a cross-section shape selected from circular, elliptical, polygonal and combinations thereof.

16. (original): An article of claim 15, wherein said protrusions have a cross-section shape that is selected from square, triangular, rectangular, trapezoidal, and combinations thereof.

17. (original): An article of claim 15, wherein said posts have a circular cross section shape.

18. (original): An article of claim 17, wherein said posts have a diameter of 1 to 15 mils.

19. (original): An article of claim 17, wherein said posts have a diameter of 2 to 10 mils.

20. (original): An article of claim 17, wherein said posts have a diameter of 3 to 5 mils.

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21. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions are arrayed in a pattern selected from random, polygonal, circular, and elliptical.

22. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions are arrayed in a pattern selected from square, hexagonal, rectangular, and triangular.

23. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions are arrayed in a square pattern.

24. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein the density of protrusions is 50 to 4000 per square inch.

25. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein the density of protrusions is 500 to 1200 per square inch.

26. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein the density of protrusions is 700 to 1000 per square inch.

27. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein the density of protrusion is 900 per square inch.

28. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have an aspect ratio of 4:1 or less.

29. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have an aspect ratio of 2:1 or less.

30. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have a height of 1 to 25 mils.

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31. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have a height of 2 to 12 mils.

32. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have a height of 3 to 8 mils.

33. (original): An article of claim 1, wherein said protrusions have a height of 4 to 5 mils.

34. (currently amended): ~~An article of claim 1. An article comprising an adhesive layer, a backing layer associated with said adhesive layer, and a release liner layer wherein said release liner layer comprises a first surface associated with said adhesive layer and a second surface, wherein said first surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions that penetrate said adhesive layer to make substantial contact with said backing layer,~~ wherein said protrusions have a height at least 4 mils greater than the thickness of the associated adhesive layer,

35. (previously presented): An article comprising: a first adhesive layer, a first backing layer associated with said first adhesive layer, a release layer, and a second adhesive layer, and a second backing layer associated with said second adhesive layer,

wherein said release layer comprises a first surface associated with said first adhesive layer and a second surface associated with said second adhesive layer,

wherein said first surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions that penetrate said first adhesive layer to make substantial contact with said first backing layer,

wherein said second surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions that penetrate said second adhesive layer to make substantial contact with said second backing layer, and

wherein said first adhesive layer does not contact the land of said release layer.

36 – 37. (canceled)

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38. (original): An article of claim 35, wherein said protrusions on said first surface are present in a different array than those protrusions on said second surface.

39. (original): An article of claim 35, wherein said protrusions on said first surface have different cross-section shape than those protrusions on said second surface.

40. (previously presented): A method for the release of an adhesive article from a substrate comprising the steps of:

- i) applying the adhesive article to a substrate, and
 - ii) removing the adhesive article from the substrate;
- wherein the adhesive article comprises an adhesive layer and a backing layer associated said adhesive layer,

wherein said substrate comprises a first surface associated with said adhesive and a second surface, wherein said first surface is embossed to provide a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions that penetrate said adhesive layer to make substantial contact with said backing layer, and

wherein said adhesive layer does not contact the land of said substrate.

41. (canceled)

42. (canceled)

43. (canceled)